

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



Interagency Council on Homelessness (ICH)

Meeting Summary

Committee: Full Council Meeting

Date/Time: Tuesday September 19, 2017, 2 – 3:30 pm

Location: Patricia Handy Place for Women (810 5th St NW, 20001), Multi-Purpose Room

Meeting Participants

- **ICH Council Members:** this is an official meeting of ICH Members, or their assigned delegates. For a complete listing of members see <http://ich.dc.gov/page/interagency-council-homelessness-members>.
- **General Audience:** as a meeting that is open to the public, a general audience is permitted. However, participation in discussion is limited to the Public Comment section of the agenda. Otherwise, the floor is reserved for ICH Council Members attending the meeting.

Meeting Agenda

I. Welcome and Opening Remarks

City Administrator Rashad Young called the meeting to order, welcoming members and stakeholder. The CA thanked N Street Village for hosting the ICH at the Patricia Handy Place for Women and invited Director of N Street Village (Elizabeth (Schroeder) Stribling to make some welcoming remarks:

- Director Stribling (N Street Village) welcomed the ICH Full Council;
- Carla Lester, Associate Director of Interim Programs, summarized the services at Pat Handy;
- A former resident shared her experience receiving medical respite care and emergency shelter at Pat Handy, as well as her connection and exit into permanent housing.

II. Public Comments

The Homeless Services Reform Act requires that there be an opportunity at the beginning of each meeting for members of the public to comment on matters relevant to the work of the ICH.

Members of the general audience provided public comments related to:

- Security protocols at Low Barrier Shelters (LBS), including items that are confiscated by security;
- Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) programming, including the need to circulate information on the employment opportunities and programming that can support individuals enrolled in RRH;
- Announcement regarding the 2nd Annual March for Veterans Right to be held on Veterans Day
- Request to continue funding homeless services programming, including testimony of positive experience with Pathways, Nativity and Pat Handy;

- Offer from the Friends of the Library to support DHS efforts to provide day services in the Downtown area;
- Request to meet the Mayor one-on-one with regards to businesses who are attacking and/or otherwise infringing on homeless individuals;
- Modernization of the Homeless Services Reform Act (HSRA);
- Questions related to flyers obtained at a meal site program; and
- Questions about the future use of Franklin School and Square nearby, as well as day services in the Downtown area.

Various ICH Council Members including Director Greenwalt (ICH), Carter Hewgley (representing DHS), Donald Brooks (Constituent representative) and Michael Coleman (Constituent representative) addressed the public questions and comments related to Day Services, security at Low Barrier Shelters and Rapid Re-Housing.

III. Winter Plan

Director Greenwalt (ICH) provided some context, including the difference between Homeward DC and the Winter Plan. Jill Carmichael, Co-Chair of the Emergency Response and Shelter Operations (ERSO) Committee walked through the Winter Plan including the purpose, process, and contents of the Winter Plan. Key enhancements made in recent years and additional enhancements made for FY18 were also covered.

For additional details, please review the attached presentation slide and handouts for **FY2018 Winter Plan FAQs, Overflow Shelter List** and **Key Telephone Numbers in FY2018 Winter Plan**. The Winter Plan is also available online at <https://ich.dc.gov/page/winter-plan>.

Discussion topics/questions included:

- Response times for request for transportation;
- Strategy for ensuring that individuals reluctant to access Low Barrier Shelters (LBS) have options for sheltering from extreme weather conditions;
- Availability of outreach services throughout the District wide;
- Composition of outreach teams, including employment opportunities for homeless advocates and peers; and
- Availability of seasonal beds for men, particularly with regards to participation of CCNV.

After the discussion, the City Administrator motioned for adoption. Several Members moved and seconded the motion. The Winter Plan was adopted unanimously by the ICH Council.

IV. Coordinated Assessment and Housing Placement (CAHP) System for Singles

Director Greenwalt (ICH) provided some context including the difference between the housing resources coordinated by the Homeless Services system and the broader affordable housing resources available in the District.

Beau Stiles, TCP CAHP Administrator for Singles, presented on the different components of the CAHP system for Singles, including intake and assessment, prioritization and match to housing resource, and the housing navigation services provided to ensure successful housing and lease up.

Adam Rocap, Co-Chair of the Singles CAHP Leadership Work Group, presented on the challenges, including lack of housing resources, need to expedite housing placements, high service needs as demonstrated by assessment results and the efforts to update the prioritization criteria to reflect the community need and experience. For details, please review the attached presentation slide.

The discussion post-presentation touched on the following:

- Use of peers amongst the Veterans NOW initiative;
- Review of job descriptions and qualifications to determine if housing navigation related jobs are accessible to homeless advocates and peers; and
- Updating assessments as living situations changes;
- Difference between the triage assessment (VI-SPDAT) and the longer assessment tool (SPDAT, also known as the Full SPDAT);
- Concern that the system is not prioritizing and/or housing the most vulnerable;
- Need to monitor organizations and persons administering the SPDAT to ensure quality control;
- Option for participating in the discussions regarding prioritization.

To participate in the discussions re prioritization, please join the upcoming Singles CAHP Work Group meeting scheduled for 10/03 from 1 – 2:30 pm at DHS (located at 64 New York Avenue, NE).

V. HUD CoC Funding: FY2017 Competition

TCP Executive Director Sue Marshall provided an update on the FY2017 Competition for HUD CoC Funding. For details, please review the attached presentation slide.

VI. Other Announcements

The CA called for announcements:

- Request for DOES Director Odie Donald to present on Employment Services. This will be the meeting topic of the next ICH Full Council.
- 2017 Project Homeless Connect organized by United Way will be held on Oct 19 from 10 am – 4 pm at the Kennedy Recreation Center.
- The Youth Census kicks off on Friday 9/22.

VII. Adjournment

The CA adjourned the meeting.